IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED BY THE COM-MISSIONERS OF CHARITIES.

PUTTING THE APPROPRIATION OF \$1,000,000 TO GOOD USE-NEW BUILDINGS AND CHANGES

Under the provisions of the act passed last year making an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for improvebuildings under the control of the Department of Charities, plans for a large amount of work have been made by the Commissioners. me of it contracts have already been let, and the work has been begun; in other cases the plans have been drawn and are awaiting approval. As they have to undergo approval by the State Board of Charities, the Board of Estimate and the Deartment of Buildings, it is obvious that considerble time must elapse after the Commissioners of Charities determine upon a project before it can

actually be taken in hand. bring the physical equipment of the Department up to the proper standard has required large outlays since the reform administration took it in charge, for the rule of the Tammany officials was to neglect improvements and crowd people in the hospitals, the almshouse and the penal institutions then under the control of the Commissioners of Charities and Correction, without slightest regard to the comfort of the inmates. so long as a "record" for economy could be The reasonableness of such liberal exenditures as have been made is apparent, and little objection was raised when it was proposed last year to appropriate \$1,000,000 for the purpose

One of the changes contemplated is the rem f the headquarters of the Department from the building which it has long occupied at Third-ave. and Eleventh-st. The two-story brick building is erected about thirty years ago, and the Depariment of Charities and Correction took posses on of it in 1868. It is believed by the Commissioners that it will be to the advantage of the Department and the public if the central offices are rought closer to the main channel of the Department's business, and plans have been drawn for he erection of a steel shed the entire length of the pler at East Twenty-sixth-st. It will be ories in height. The upper floor will be used for offices, and underneath will be the distributing ase, which is now on Blackwell's Island. This change will leave the building at Eleventh-st. for the use of some other department or branch of the city government. AT BELLEVUE AND CITY HOSPITALS.

At and near Bellevue Hospital work has been begun on two or three new buildings. There is to be a new Morgue, the old one being too small. This has already been moved back, and the new one erected over the river. A pavilion, two stories high, for the isolation of cases or suspected cases of contagious diseases, is being built, and cases of contagious diseases, is being built, and also a new boiler and laundry-house. Plans have been drawn for a building for the use of patients suffering from erystpeias, who are at present inconveniently housed over the offices on the pier, in a room that is much needed for other purposes. Another needed building, for which plans have not yet been provided, is an emergency pavillon for maternity service. For this purpose an old fire engine-house is now used, but it is ill-adapted for such use and is too far away from the general hospital to be convenient.

engine-house is now used, but it is in-ampted because and is too far away from the general hospital to be convenient.

At the City Hospital, on Blackwell's Island, commonly known as the Charity Hospital, an important change is being made by the provision of a new kitchen in the dome of the main building. At present there are five different kitchens connected with the institution, all on the ground floor, and in some cases the food, after being cooked, has to be carried out of doors to reach those for whom it is intended. The large number of kitchens inevitably, leads to waste and extravagance. In connection with the single kitchen planned for, an elevator will be provided for carrying food and supplies to the several floors. The distribution will thus be rapid and the food will be served hot. There will be the further advantage from having the kitchen in the upper part of the building that the odors of cooking will not permeate the wards. Economy and efficiency will be promoted by having this department under the direction of a single head.

this department under the direction of a single head.

A needed improvement at the hospital is a shed and waiting room at the pier, as patients landing from the boats are now exposed to the weather at all seasons, but plans have not yet been made for this work. Work is under way, however, on two new water towers, which will provide for conveniences that have hitherto been lacking. Water is furnished to the island from the Croton system, but there is not sufficient pressure to distribute it through the buildings properly. Under the law which went into effect a year ago last January, paid helpers only are to be employed in the hospital, but suitable quarters have not yet been set apart for their comfort. In connection with the changes now going on rooms will be provided for about forty.

ALMSHOUSE IMPROVEMENTS

ALMSHOUSE IMPROVEMENTS. the Almshouse also the Charities Commis-

oners are making important improvements. Chief among them is the erection of six stone and brick pavilions, each two stories in height. They will contain twelve dormitories, each with room for 185 inmates. It is proposed to set aside two of these pavilions for the use of blind men and women. They will all be up-to-date structures, with improved santiary, ventilating and heating apparatus, and will be provided with exterior from staircases. Seventeen or eighteen of the Almshouse buildings are now heated with stoves. Before the next cold season comes it is the intention to run steam pipes to all of them.

A three-story building in contemplation will be built of brick and stone, and will contain a bake oven, butcher shop and refrigerators, storeroom, engine-room, etc. with a laundry, and a diningroom and dormitories for the help employed. Water towers for lavatory purposes will also be erected here; the dining-rooms are to be enlarged, and four elevators provided; the old veranadas will be rebuilt and iron stairways will be substituted for wooden. pavilions for the use of blind men and wome

be rebuilt and from stairways will be substituted for wooden.

At the beginning of last year the law separating the Department of Correction from that of Charities took effect. At that time H. H. Porter retired from the Department. Commissioner Wright was put in charge of the Department of Correction, and Silas C. Croft and General James R. O'Beirne became Charities Commissioners, with John P. Faure, who had been appointed by Mayor Strong in the previous April. Mr. Croft was elected president of the Board

When asked in regard to the plans of the Department, the president referred the writer to General Inspector James S. Knowles. After Mr. Knowles had given the facts set forth in this article, President Croft said that the Commissioners were trying to do all in their power for the benefit of the large number of persons intrusted to their care. He refused to make any comparison between the present administration and its predecessors, and preferred on the whole to let the improvements speak for themselves.

A BUSY DAY FOR MR. PLATT.

HE EXPECTS TO RETURN TO WASHINGTON THIS AFTERNOON-THE SENATOR THINKS ELLIS H. ROBERTS WILL SUCCEED MR. JOR-DAN - OTHER APPOINTMENTS.

It was a busy day yesterday for Thomas C. Platt. For several hours he was in his office in lower Broadway, struggling to get through with an accumulated mass of papers relating to his express business, and he declared then that he was too busy to talk about political matters. Later he went to the Fifth Avenue Hotel, and politicians besieged him there until late last evening. He said he expected to return to Washington this after-noon, and a number of the Republicans who talked with him at the hotel were interested in appointments which he is expected to get from

resident McKinley.

Among the men who talked with Mr. Platt last President McKinley.

Among the men who talked with Mr. Platt last evening were Louis F. Payn, Charles W. Hackett, Wilbur F. Wakeman, Congressman Quigg, Edward Lauterbach, George R. Bidwell, Ellis H. Roberts, State Senator Nussbaum, General Daniel E. Sickles and John Sabine Smith. The Republican organization stands solidly for a number of men who want offices from President McKinley, and Mr. Platt will carry back to Washington the strongest indorsements of those men that the organization is able to give. The list, as mentioned last night, is as follows: George W. Bidwell, for Collector of the Port. Cornelius Van Cott, for Postmaster; Ellis H. Roberts, for Assistant Treasurer at the Sub-Treasury in this city; Slias C. Croft, the present Commissioner of Charities, for Surveyor; Wilbur F. Wakeman, who has become affiliated with the Republican organization again through the influence of Secretary Bliss, for Appraiser; General Henry L. Burnett, for United States District-Attorney, and William Henkel, for United States Marshal.

Brooklyn Republicans and Mr. Platt are said to favor the appointment of R. A. Sharkey to the office of Collector of Internal Revenue for the First New-York District, in Brooklyn.

Mr. Platt said last evening that he thought Mr. Roberts would be appointed to the office of Assistant Treasurer, to succeed Conrad N. Jordan. A number of prominent Gold Democrats have been trying to have Mr. Jordan kept in office by President McKinley, on account of the work for sound money which Mr. Jordan performed in the campaign.

dent McKiniey, on account of the work for sound money which Mr. Jordan performed in the campaign.

An attempt to have Mr. Platt commit himself on the subject of a partisan Republican ticket in the Greater New-York election this fall was not quite successful. He would not criticise the speech which Mr. Lauterbach made at the meeting of the Republican County Committee on Thursday evening, and while he said it appeared to be the sentiment among Republicans of the city that there should be a straight party ticket in the coming municipal fight, he thought it was too early to talk about it.

MAYOR JUNKING ACQUITTED OF BRIBERY. Lawrence, Mass., April 17.-Mayor Junkins and ex-Alderman Patrick Ford were found not guilty of the charge of bribery and conspiracy to bribe by Judge Hadley this afternoon.

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4. Concerto (A major). Liszt
Mr. RAFAEL JOSEFFY. Mr. RAFAEL JOSEFFY.

5. Two Hungarian Dances. Brahms

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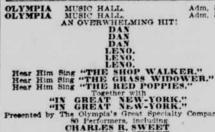
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